IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, ANDHRA PRADESH
AT HYDERABAD

(Special Original Jurisdiction)

TUESDAY, THE TWENTY FOURTH DAY OF AUGUST
TWO THOUSAND AND FOUR

PRESENT

THE HON'BLE MS JUSTICE G.ROHINI

WRIT PETITION NO : 14533 of 2004

Between:

M/s. Welcome Distilleries Private Limited,

Head Office: Super Market, 2nd Floor, Agresan Chouk,
Bilaspur & Factory at Chharakabandana Thana,

Bilaspur, Kota District, Chattishghad State,
Rep. by its Authorised Signatory - J. Rama Rao.

..... PETITIONER

AND

1 The Commissioner of Prohibition and Excise,

Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
2 The Prohibition and Excise Superintendent,

Kakinada, East Godavari District.
3 NCS Distilleries (Private) Limited,

New Port Area, Beach Road,
Kakinada, East Godavari District.

.....RESPONDENTS

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the Affidavit filed herein the High Court will be pleased to issue an appropriate Writ, Order or direction , preferably one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus, declaring that the Respondents have no jurisdiction to cause any restriction on the transport of Molasses by the Petitioner from Andhra Pradesh State to any other place in the other States in India as such restriction is illegal and without jurisdiction apart from being violative of Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution of India.

Counsel for the Petitioner: MR.E.MARUTHI RAJA

Counsel for the Respondent Nos.1 & 2: GP FOR PROHIBITION & EXCISE

The Court at the admission stage made the following:

ORDER:

Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Government Pleader for Prohibition & Excise appearing for the respondents 1 and 2.

The petitioner seeks a writ of Mandamus declaring that the respondents have no jurisdiction to restrict the transport of Molasses by the petitioner from the State of Andhra Pradesh to any other place within the State or to other States.

It is represented by the learned counsel for the petitioner as well as the learned Government Pleader appearing for the respondents 1 and 2 that the issue involved in this writ petition is squarely covered by the decision of this Court in ***M/s.Gauri Industries (Manufacturers of Rectified Spirit) v. Commissioner of Prohibition and Excise, Andhra Pradesh***, in W.P.No.8136 of 2004, wherein it is held as under:

> "It is a fact that the possession as well as transportation of Molasses was being controlled by the Molasses Control Order, issued by the Central Government. But, however, the said Control Order was rescinded by the Central Government as early as in 1993. Thereafter, there were no provisions either in the A.P. Excise Act or under any Rules framed by the State Government and this fact was clarified by a Division Bench of this Court in Writ Appeal No.2209 of 1998, dated 08-05-2001.
>
> The restriction of transportation of molasses is only if it is intended for

utilization of illicit distillation and on such occasions only the respondent authority can take action. But, however, if any individual is transporting the Molasses under a valid purchase bills to the destination of the purchaser, the respondents authority have no right to interfere with such transportation.

Therefore, the writ petition is disposed of clarifying the position that the respondents have no right to insist the petitioner for any permission or for obtaining NOC for transport of Molasses from the Sugar Factories to any other specified destination for being used by the purchaser."

Accordingly, the writ petition is disposed of in terms of directions in the above decision. No costs.

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G. Rohini, J

24th August, 2004

Note: Issue CC in two days

B/o

Isn/Gbs

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

// TRUE COPY //

SECTION OFFICER

To

1 The Commissioner of Prohibition and Excise,

Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
2 The Prohibition and Excise Superintendent,

Kakinada, East Godavari District.
3. Two CCs to G.P. for Prohibition & Excise,

High Court Buildings, Hyderabad (OUT).

4. One CC to Mr. E. Maruthi Raja, Advocate.

5. Two CD copies